

NHLA - Reference and Adult Services Section
READS Executive Board
Local Government Center
Library
Friday, April 20, 2012

Present: Tara Thomas, Deann Hunter, Myra Emmons, Mary Cronin, Carol Roberts (joining as Programming Vice Chair)

Absent: Lori Fisher, Kersten Matera, Erin Apostolos, Diane Mayr, Patricia Fickett, Caitlin Andrews

Call to Order: Myra Emmons called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. [Four out of eight voting members are present, which is believed to be a quorum, based on NHLA Bylaws requiring 10 out of 20 voting members to constitute a quorum at their Executive Board meetings.]

Approval of Minutes: Deann Hunter MOVED accepted the minutes of the February 17, 2012 meeting as presented. MOTION passed.

Treasurer's Report: Deann Hunter explained that the only changes since February were \$400 received in Membership fees, and \$232 expended on two new READS banners, which were used at the recent READS Roundtables programs. Income from the READS Roundtables has not been received yet, but it should be coming soon.

President's Report: Myra Emmons distributed a written report prior to today's meeting. No questions.

Vice President's Report: Tara Thomas provided a written report prior to today's meeting. Tara had one comment about her report, which listed proposed Bylaws changes to be voted on at this year's annual meeting in October. Tara had one minor correction, to add the word "the" before "NHLA Treasurer" in the last paragraph.

Public Relations: Lori Fisher provided a written report prior to today's meeting. Myra Emmons asked whether READS should adopt NHLA Policy about no refunds for cancellations requested less than two weeks before a program. Deann Hunter reported that READS has never had an issue with cancellations requiring refunds other than refunding program fee for award nominees. After a discussion over the tone of the policy, Tara Thomas suggested that READS should follow NHLA policy, and on conference materials include the sentence "Refund Policy follows NHLA Program Cancellation Policy."

In her report, Lori asked for an additional Public Relations Committee member to help with READS publicity. Caitlin Andrews had offered to help at a prior meeting.

Membership: Kersten Matera provided a report prior to today's meeting. There are currently 199 members. For the next e-newsletter scheduled for May, the board members present asked that Kersten include a blurb noting that READS will follow NHLA Cancellation Policy for its program registrations, and a note to welcome Carol Roberts as new Vice Chair of READS Programming Committee.

Programming: Erin Apostolos provided a report prior to today's meeting. None present at today's meeting were able to attend any of the READS Roundtables due to busy schedules. Carol Roberts asked whether reported attendance of 41 at the Roundtables was typical. A look at last year's minutes showed that 46 people attended Roundtables in 2011. Myra said she will be interested in seeing how including Roundtable as part of the North Country Coop meeting worked out, and whether this model (combining efforts with Coops) could be used for future READS programs. All agreed that at times it seems there are too many meetings, which may limit attendance for otherwise valuable programs. Deann asked if there was a way to track where program attendees are coming from, whether parts of the state, like the Keene area, are underrepresented at READS programs. Myra reported that Gail Zacariah of the Keene Public Library (and NHLA Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair) was interested in hosting a Pop-up Roundtable on Labeling. All wondered whether rather than scheduling another meeting, whether this program could be included with a Nubanusit Coop meeting.

READS-to-Go: Diane Mayr submitted a report prior to today's meeting. There were no questions.

Myra noted that she would like to have a list of READS Committee members for the Programming and READS-to-Go committees.

Past President's report: Pat Fickett provided a report prior to today's meeting. Deann has a possible candidate for Vice President/President-Elect; she will contact Pat to discuss. Myra also has two suggestions for possible candidates. READS Award of Excellence "call for nominees" postcards will be sent soon.

Conference Committee Liaison: Caitlin Andrews did not submit a report for today's meeting; there is no NHLA conference this spring.

Old Business

Final Budget: Deann made changes to 2012-13 budget discussed at the February meeting. Tara MOVED to accept budget as presented. MOTION PASSED.

Roundtable summaries and evaluation: In Erin's absence, discussion was tabled until next meeting.

Award of Excellence update: tabled.

Fall Conference update: tabled.

New Business:

Programming Chair candidate: Carol Roberts was appointed Programming Vice Chair. Carol likes the Vice Chair option as a way to become familiar with the workings of the Programming

Committee.

Other Programming business: Erin asked for mileage reimbursement for travel to Lancaster to moderate Roundtable. READS has no official policy on mileage reimbursement for travel to meetings as official representative of READS. Myra Emmons MOVED to reimburse Erin Apostolos for mileage for acting as moderator at the Lancaster Roundtable, and to put in the minutes that the READS Executive Board will further discuss a mileage reimbursement policy on official READS business at the next meeting. MOTION PASSED.

Carol started a discussion about mileage reimbursement for NHLA committee involvement for NH librarians. After discussion revealed that reimbursement is not available to all committee members present, Myra was asked to suggest at the next NHLA Board meeting to find a way to promote the benefits of committee involvement to a committee member's home library, and to encourage mileage reimbursement for attendance at committee meetings for all NHLA committees and sections board members.

Pop-up on Labeling (guidance or censorship): Based on recent discussions on the NHAIS-L listserv about whether to include movie ratings on library video covers and in catalogs, Myra has been investigating holding a READS Pop-up on Labeling. As discussion has morphed into the larger issue of censorship in general, those present at the meeting felt that topic may have become too big for a Roundtable, and would be better suited to a full conference session. [A discussion of policies and censorship followed, including issue of borrowing privileges and privacy requirements for children with their own library cards.]

The next READS Executive Board meeting will be on June 15, 2012. Myra Emmons adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Cronin, READS Secretary